GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1935
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2003
NATIONAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT AGENCY
RAM PRASAD SINGH

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have set up a National Disaster Management Agency to deal with all types of natural and man-made disaster;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of the Department to be involved with the agency;

(d) whether any comprehensive guidelines on disaster management have been circulated to all the State Governments;

(e) if so, the details in this regard;

(f) whether the Government propose to set up DMA at State level; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D.SWAMI)

(a) & (b): A proposal for setting up a National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) in the Ministry of Home Affairs has been initiated. The NDMA will, inter-alia, be responsible for coordinating/mandating Government`s policies for disaster reduction/mitigation; ensuring adequate preparedness at all levels; coordinating response to a disaster when it strikes and post disaster relief & rehabilitation.

(c): Ministries/Departments of Health, Water Resources, Agriculture, Atomic Energy, Environment & Forests, Railways, Defence, Science & Technology, Chemicals and Indian Meteorological Department are proposed to be represented on the NDMA.

(d) & (e): Yes, Sir. The guidelines circulated to the State Governments, inter-alia, recommend creation of a separate Department/Authority for Disaster Management, setting up of specialized composite search & rescue teams, up-gradation of fire services as all-hazard response units, establishment of composite control rooms, drawing up of State Level Disaster Management Roadmap/Framework and District specific disaster management plans, incorporating disaster management aspects in plan projects/development schemes, ensuring adherence to BIS codes for buildings in States falling under seismic zones IV & V, maintaining an on-line inventory of resources available for disaster management, creation of awareness and training for Government functionaries and inclusion of basic disaster related material in the text books for students of classes 8th, 9th and 10th.

(f) & (g): The State Governments have been advised to consider setting up a Disaster Management Authority (DMA) under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary at State Level for coordinated action towards mitigation and preparedness for disasters as also for coordinated response when a disaster strikes.